

Beneficiary Travel Benefits

The Travel Beneficiary Program helps reimburse incurred costs of travel to medical appointments for eligible Veterans. You may qualify if:

1. you have a service connected (SC) rating of 30% or more, or
2. if less than 30% SC, you are traveling for treatment of a SC condition, or
3. you receive a VA pension, or
4. your income does not exceed the maximum annual VA pension rate, or
5. you are traveling for a scheduled compensation and pension examination

VA currently reimburses at 41.5 cents per mile for all Veteran travel. In some cases, deductibles apply. Waivers of deductible are available in certain cases of financial hardship. Veterans can apply for waivers at the Travel Office service window in Bldg. 5.

Veterans can choose to go to any VA facility, however, travel can only be reimbursed from place of residence to the nearest VA facility, including CBOCs, that can provide the needed care.

Beneficiary travel claims must be made at the time of or within 30 calendar days of an eligible appointment, including claims for weekend clinics and authorized Non-VA care appointments.

Starting October 1, 2016, cash payments are phased out and Veterans receiving payments are reimbursed via Electronic Funds Transfer, (EFT, or direct deposit) only.

To file a claim, you must have first completed a Direct Deposit Enrollment Form (available at the Travel Office). You can then submit claims using the self-service kiosks or by filing written claims.

To use a VA self-service kiosk to file beneficiary travel claims, simply find the nearest kiosk and follow the prompts on the touch screen to request your travel reimbursement. Kiosks are available in Bldg. 111, Bldg. 1 (PACT 2/3), Bldg. 1A (PACT 4/5), Dental Clinic, Bldg. 29, Room 107, and at the Montevideo and Brainerd VA Clinics.

Written claims can be made in person at the Travel Office window in Bldg. 5 during normal business hours. You may also drop the claim form in one of several drop boxes located throughout the medical center. Beginning in June, 2016, cash payments are being phased out and Veterans receiving payments are reimbursed via Electronic Funds Transfer, (EFT, or direct deposit) only.

Veterans at the VA clinics in Brainerd, Montevideo or Alexandria can submit a claim form to the clerk at each location. You may also fax it to 320-654-7636, or mail it to:

St. Cloud VA Health Care System
Attn: Beneficiary Travel
4801 Veterans Drive
St. Cloud, MN 56303